Attorney Docket: 35365.9

What is claimed is:

A method of enhancing spectral data, said data comprising M discrete intensity values within
one of a range of wavelength values, a range of frequency values and a range of mass values, said
method comprising:

- a) applying a first function to the spectral data to obtain an inverse transform of the spectrum,
- b) zero-filling said inverse transform, and
- c) applying a second function to the zero-filled inverse transform to obtain a spectrum comprising N discrete intensity values within said range of wavelength, frequency or mass values, wherein N>M.
- 2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:
 - i) apodizing said inverse transform, before zero-filling and applying the second function.
- A method according to claim 2, wherein the second function is applied to the apodized zerofilled inverse transform.
- 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein when the inverse transform is zero-filled by a factor Z, and wherein N is Z times greater than M.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein the spectral data comprises an atomic emission spectrum.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein the spectral data is in the ultra-violet, visible and/or infrared domain.
- 7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the spectral data comprises a mass spectrum.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein the first function is a Fourier Transform function and second function is an inverse Fourier Transform function.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein the spectral data and the spectrum are a spectrum in the frequency domain.

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 A computer readable medium embodying a computer program which, when executed, carries out the method of claim 1.

11. A processor configured:

- (a) to receive spectral data from a spectrometer, the spectral data comprising M discrete intensity values within one of a range of wavelength values, a range of frequency values and a range of mass values;
- (b) to apply a first function to the spectral data to obtain an inverse transform of the spectrum,
- (c) to zero-fill said inverse transform, and
- (d) to apply a second function to the zero-filled inverse transform to obtain a spectrum comprising N discrete intensity values within said one of said ranges of wavelength, frequency and mass values, and wherein N>M.
- 12. A spectrometer arranged to generate an array of spectral data comprising M discrete intensity values within one of a range of wavelength values, a range of frequency values and a range of mass values, the spectrometer including the processor of claim 11.